Docket No. 219928US0

MAY 2 8 2004 (S)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Francine BALDO, et al.

EXAMINER: G. Yu

SERIAL NO: 10/078,409

FILED: February 21, 2002

GROUP ART UNIT: 1617

FOR: COMPOSITION FOR TOPICAL APPLICATION

COMPRISING AT LEAST ONE HYDROXYSTILBENE AND AT LEAST ONE POLYOL TO SOLUBILIZE THE

HYDROXYSTILBENE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 28, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

As noted in the present specification, hydroxystilbenes have low solubility in cosmetic solvents and, in fact, tend to crystallize in cosmetic compositions. (See, e.g., page 3, lines 8-11). This crystallization/lack of solubility can hinder the hydroxystilbene's effectiveness/activity and can change the overall stability and/or appearance of the composition. (See, e.g., page 3, lines 11-15).

The present invention addresses these crystallization/lack of solubility problems associated with hydroxystilbenes. Specifically, the present invention relates to combining sufficient polyol with hydroxystilbenes to solubilize them, thereby increasing their effectiveness/activity. None of the cited art teaches or suggests this invention.

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